



October 15, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The City of Tallahassee would like to express its support for the "Consensus Plan" filed by public safety organizations and private wireless organizations.

In 1997, the City of Tallahassee purchased an 800 MHz voice and data system. To date, we have experienced only limited interference from cellular providers. However, due to the increasing need for bandwidth and the constant expansion of cellular systems, we will most assuredly start seeing an increased rate of interference in the future.

The primary concern of the City of Tallahassee with the Consensus Plan is that the City would likely be financially responsible for moving our 800 MHz system to other bandwidths or frequencies. Since the cellular providers are creating this problem, we do not believe it is fair or reasonable for local governments to use taxpayers' dollars to move to another bandwidth or frequency. We would not be able to fund such a major change and require funding in this regard.

We believe the "Consensus Plan" offers a long-term solution to a very difficult problem. It will eliminate most interference and address the root cause of the problem. The plan also expands the available bandwidth for public safety and addresses the constantly growing need of bandwidth.

Sincerely,

Anita R. Favors  
City Manager

ARF:slf

- cc: Thomas R. Coe, Assistant City Manager
- Chief Walt McNeil, Tallahassee Police Department
- David Reid, Director, Management and Administration
- Don DeLoach, Chief Information Systems Services Officer
- Dinah Hart, Intergovernmental Relations Officer